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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Association for Progressive Communications*

(General consultative status granted in 1995)

The Association for progressive communications is an international network of civil society organizations whose missions is to empower and support organizations, social movements and individuals in and through the use of information and communication technologies to build strategic communities and initiatives for the purpose of making meaningful contributions to equitable human development, social justice, participatory political processes and environment sustainability (from APC Mission Statement).
APC's membership spans the globe, with presence in Western, central and Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America and North America.

When APC was first granted ECOSOC status, APC's operations were largely self-funded from member payments, and a few projects were funded by donors. Now, member dues make up about 5 % of APC's income, while our operations and programmes are largely funded by donors.

Many International NGOs with Consultative Status are affiliated to APC:

- The third World Institute (ITeM), Uruguay (General Consultative Status with ECOSOC) is an APC member
- IBASE (General Consultative Status) is involved in the APC Betinho Communication Prize
- International Women's Tribune Center is APC's executive partner in the implementation of the Women Action initiative
- FEMNET (Consultative Status) collaborated with APC's African Women's Programme
- AMARC (Consultative Status) collaborated with APC on a project in Latin America

Participation in the ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and / or conferences and other UN meetings

- ECA 40th Anniversary Conference on Women and Economic Development, 1998 International Conference on Population and Development, 5-13 September 195, Cairo.
- Fourth World Conference on Women: action for equality, development and peace, 4-15 September 1995. Circulated APC Women's Networking Support Programme statement: gender and IT: the Right of Women to have equal access to computer communications technology and networks.
- Commission on the Status of Women, 39th Session 13-24 March 1995, New York.
- World Summit for Social development, 6-12 March 1995, Copenhagen.
- UNESCO Seminar Women and the Media, February 1995, Toronto.
- ECA Informatics Symposium, 1995, Addis Ababa.

Cooperation with UN bodies and specialized agencies

ENDA and SANGONET (Southern Africa Non Governmental Organization Network), two of APC's members in Africa, work in close cooperation and partnership with the UN's Economic Commission for Africa's African Information Society Initiative.

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APC has also worked on several discrete projects with UNDP (Women's Net South African training and Open Source GPL Telecenters), UNIFEM (Global Knowledge Gender theme preparation and Women Action women and media activities for UNGASS) and UNESCO (Tele center manual for Africa).

Other relevant activities

We have worked actively in implementing resolutions made at the World Conference on Women in 1995, regionally, nationally and internationally.

Consultations and cooperation with officials of the UN Secretariat

In preparation for the UNWCW.

Other examples of consultative and substantive activities

- APC supported several training sessions at UN events in Africa: 40th Anniversary Conference, African Development Forum, 6th African Regional Conference on Women.
- SANGONET, APC's member, provided technical training and internships to staff from UNECA and free database hosting to UNECA.
- APC's Women's Networking Support Programme participated in the preparatory consultation for the development of Women Watch www gateway (UNIFEM/DAW/INSTRAW).

2. International Islamic Relief Organization*

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Profile:

The International Islamic Relief Organization, Saudi Arabia (IIROSA) was established on 1st January, 1978 as a humanitarian non-governmental and non-political organization in response to the increasing need for alleviating the suffering of fellow human beings worldwide and was given NGOs Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1995. It has more than 30 offices and conducts activities in more than 75.

Support of the United Nations work, purpose, and principles:

The IIROSA as stated in its aims and constitution seeks to help all people in need regardless of their ethnic, linguistic or religious backgrounds. In this respect, its activities correspond fully with some of the United Nations offices such as UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, UNECA and UNESCO.

Contribution to the work of the United Nations, the UN agencies, Inter-governmental or Non-governmental organizations:

- The IIROSA fully cooperates with UNHCR in many areas, such as: the cooperation between the two organizations in Pakistan-Afghanistan to help the Afghan and Tajik refugees and has signed an agreement enabling UNHCR patients to be referred to IIROSA-built Al-Badr Maternity and Pediatric hospital in Peshawar.
- The IIROSA participated in the PARinAC and addressed the topics of Progress of Cooperation on the Spirit of PARinAC between the NGOs and UNHCR in the field of Training, Refugees Women and

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Children, Emergency Assistance, from Emergency to Development and Inter-organizational Cooperation and Consultation. The conference was organized by UNHCR in Geneva.

- The IIROSA participated in the UN Disaster Management Training Programme for Africa (UNDMTP) to jointly train office directors, program officers and field workers in Africa.
- The IIROSA participated and delivered a working paper in the UN conference held in New York on 9th March 1993. The conference was organized by the Holy Sea and termed "Refugees as A Challenge to the 21st Century." It was addressed by former LJN Secretary-General Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali.
- The International Conference on Uprooted Muslim Refugees Women was held with the collaboration of the UNHCR offices in Geneva. It was held in Sharjah, UAE between 12-1 *5* November, 1994.
- The IIROSA attended the International Conference on Forced Migration held in 1995 in Eldorate, Kenya.
- The IIROSA participated in the conference on Muslim-Christian Dialogue on Development and Relief in Ottawa, Canada, between 17- 18 June, 1996.
- The IIROSA attended the forty-ninth session of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as an observer form 5 to 9th October, 1998 in Geneva.

IIROSA work and cooperation with Islamic and Arabs NGOs:

The IIROSA is the chair of the General Relief Committee (GRC) which consists of more than 50 Arab and Islamic NGOs worldwide. The GRC is an umbrella organization which coordinates relief work of these organizations.

I. 1995

Health Care: During 1995, IIROSA has implemented 354 health projects in 44 countries and provided medical treatment to more than 3.4 million people and established 98 medical laboratories worldwide.

Educational Care: During 1995, countries, appointed 395 teachers and sponsored 2,624 students in Asia, Africa, South America and Australia.

Emergency Relief: During 1995, IIROSA's Emergency Relief program distributed 50 tons of flour, 13 tons of rice, 10 tons of sugar, one ton of tea, 45 tons of edible oil, 91 tons of miscellaneous items including 1,600 blankets in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas.

Social Welfare: During 1995, IIROSA's Social Welfare program sponsored 77,904 male and female orphans in 58 countries, established 42 orphanages in 18 countries and built one orphanage in Mali.

Human Resources Development: During 1995, IIROSA's Human Resources Development program established 18 vocational training centers such as secretarial, computer training, tailoring, embroidery, carpentry and motor mechanic in Asia and Africa. IIROSA's Educational program assisted 350 educational institutions in 38.

II. 1996

Health Care: During 1996, IIROSA's Health Care program has so far implemented 223 health projects such as hospitals, clinics, pharmacies and nutrition centers including 79 projects in Africa, 100 in Asia and 44 projects in Europe and the Americas. It also provided health facilities to more than 4.1 million persons in 45 countries.

Educational Care: During 1996, IIROSA's Educational Care program supported more than 347 educational institutions and schools including 20 colleges and 5 boarding schools in 39 countries as well as sponsored 983 teachers and 2,094 students in 67 countries.

Emergency Relief: During 1996, IIROSA's Emergency Relief program provided relief items to more than 3 million refugees and displaced all over the world. Assisted earthquake and flood victims in Indonesia, Egypt, Morocco, Kyrgyzstan and Dagestan by providing tents and relief materials. It also cooperated with UNHCR, by acting as an implementing agency, in the United Republic of Tanzania helping Rwandan and Burundian refugees. It cooperated with WFP in distributing food to needy people and refugees in the United Republic of Tanzania, Mozambique and Sierra Leone. It cooperated with HELP, a German-based relief organization, in distributing food to refugees in Africa and the Commonwealth Independent States (CIS).

Social Welfare: During 1996, IIROSA's Social Welfare program sponsored 83,000 orphans in 58 countries and established 25 centers for orphans and mother care in 12 countries, built 22 orphanages for 3,132 orphans.

Agricultural project: During 1996, IIROSA's Agricultural project was established to promote agricultural production. It provided financial and technical packages to beneficiary groups. It supported these agricultural projects.

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Vegetables production, bees rearing, mushroom project, rabbits rearing, animal husbandry, and production of potato seeds.

Iraqi Kurdistan: Bees rearing, animal husbandry, and production of grains.

Azerbaijan: Vegetables project in Camp No. 1 and Camp No.2 as well as Agdash wheat project.
Well drilling project: During 1996, IIROSA's Well Drilling project drilled **23** deep wells, 25 1 surface wells and 15 pipeline units in Ghana, Ethiopia, Mauritania, Eritrea, Mali, Uganda, Sudan, Zambia, Senegal, Albania, Indonesia, Afghanistan, China, Yemen, India and Iraqi Kurdistan.

III. 1997

Health Care: During 1996, IIROSA's Health Care program established 9 hospitals, 98 dispensaries, polyclinics and 58 nutrition centers in Kenya, Gambia, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Uganda, Lebanon, Indonesia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Somalia, and Philippines. It treated 4.1 million patients in 45 countries. In addition, a special children's hospital was established in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. This hospital is extensively used by people living in IIROSA and UNHCR camps as well as local students. A polyclinic has been set up in Sarajevo with six specialized clinics. Similar clinics have been set up in Croatia and Africa.

Educational Care: The IIROSA's Educational Care program helped more than 153 schools, 14 educational institutions, 18 colleges, 5 kindergartens in 35 countries. Five hostels were built to accommodate students in Asia, Africa, and North Africa. It also sponsored 2,094 students and 983 teachers in 69 countries.

Social Welfare: During 1997, within the scope of the activities in the field of Social Welfare, IIROSA sponsored 55,000 orphans, sponsored 35 orphanages which accommodated 3,773 orphans and provided assistance to 250 orphanages that accommodated 12,000 orphans. It initiated a destitute child program to assist poor children and their families. It has also introduced special programs for the handicapped people in Addis Ababa, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Austria and some parts of Asia.

Emergency Relief: During 1997, when the war erupted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, IIROSA sponsored 15 camps in Croatia which accommodated about 800 refugees as well as distributed 20,000 tons of food. It also supported 5,000 refugees in Kenya and 12,000 Burmese (Rohingya) refugees in Bangladesh. During the Somalia civil war, it distributed 7,000 tons of food and established 15 catering units and served 150,000 meals daily. It also established the Zakho camp in Iraqi Kurdistan and distributed 2,635 tons of food stuff. In addition, IIROSA supported 50,000 Tawariq refugees in Mauritania where it distributed 2,600 tons of food stuff.

Human Resources Development Program: During 1997, IIROSA's Human Resources Development program established 12 vocational training centers. Carpentry, mechanical and electrical works, tailoring, secretarial, and

computer learning centers in Mauritania, Djibouti, Nigeria, Mali, Uganda, Bangladesh and Chad were set up. A mother and child care center in Philippines was established.

IV. 1998

Health Care: During 1998, IIROSA's Health Care program supervised 140 health projects in 29 countries, including 7 hospitals, 68 dispensaries, 5 clinic complexes, 35 clinics, 7 pharmacies, 5 feeding centers, 2 mobile clinics, 3 sponsored physicians and 8 other health care programmes.

Educational Care: During 1998, IIROSA's Educational Care program helped more than 229 educational institutions in 42 countries as well as sponsored 20,896 students and 2,000 teachers all over the world.

Social Welfare: During 1998, IIROSA's Social Welfare program sponsored 39,154 male and female orphans in 50 countries. It also supported 22 orphanages in 13 countries.

Emergency Relief: During 1998, IIROSA's Emergency Relief program distributed more than 6,624,661 kg of relief materials in 35 countries.

Water wells drilling project: During 1998, IIROSA's Well Drilling project drilled 103 artesian and surface wells as well as built several pipeline units in Asia and Africa.
Human Resources Development Program: During 1998, IIROSA's Human Resources Development program established 17 vocational training centers in Mauritania, Djibouti, Nigeria, Bagladesh, Uganda and Mali, typewriting center in Nigeria, Computer training and vocational training center in Chad.

3. New Human Rights*

(Special consultative status granted in 1995)

Introduction

New Human Rights (NHR) is a non-governmental organization working for the promotion, protection and development of human rights and the humanitarian law. The headquarters address is Jun in 262, Planta Baja 2, Buenos Aires, Argentina. NHR is also established in 14 Cite Vaneau, Paris, France. The Spanish name for the organization is Nuevos Derechos del Hombre (NDH), the French version is Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme (NDH) and the Italian name is Nuovo Diritti de l'Homme (NDH). Besides the above-mentioned addresses, there are two organizations in formation in Cameroon and Rome; none of them have been yet recognized as filials. The Constitutive Assembly of NHR took place in Buenos Aires on November 1990. The Economic and Social Council granted NHR as a non governmental organization, consultative status (category II) in June 1995.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/3 1/ NHR submits the quadrennial report of its activities and contributions in support of the work of the United Nations. The work of NHR has been exposed in detail through its Bulletin Noticias of which 29 issues has been published from May 1991 through December 1998. From 1995 to 1998 has been issued Bulletin numbers 14 through 29. The Bulletin is forwarded to the United Nations and widely distributed among hundreds of NGOs worldwide. On the other hand the magazine ***L'arc-en-ciel*** is published by NHR Paris with the collaboration of renowned specialists and human rights activists from France and other countries.

NHR has observed the statutes rules, especially on the convening of the semiannual assembly with the renovation of its authorities in the second half of the year. Member participation has been great. Membership has increased

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considerably. Among its 427 members are numerous outstanding personalities such as parliamentarians, diplomats, a former Constitutional National President, jurists, university professors, writers, artists, professionals, working and young people, all committed to the human rights cause.

Participation in United Nations conferences and involvement with its subsidiary bodies

NHR sent its delegations to numerous UN conferences.

- September 1995, World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, September 1995. NHR. The delegation was composed by 7 members (10 males, 7 females).
- NHR representatives participated every year in the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights in Geneva.
- NHR's President visited every year New York and Geneva United Nations Offices and regularly meets with the NGOs Department and UN Secretariat Officers.
- NHR has permanent representatives in New York, Geneva and Vienna UN Offices.
- All NHR's Bulletin issues regularly include briefing notes on the United Nations, UN Secretary-General Speeches, statements and UN documents.
- NHR observes every year the International Day on Human Rights and 1998 was dedicated to the commemoration of 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- NHR, through Mrs. Gabriela Arias Uriburu spoke at the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in Geneva, on the need to comply with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to fight against the kidnapping of children by any of the parents.

Other international activities

NHR has participated during 1995 and 1998 in the following conferences and meetings:

- International Seminar on Indigenous People, Cochabamba, Bolivia (March 1996).
- Seminar on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Bogota, Colombia, (May 1996).
- Seminar on Mercosur's Human Rights, Parliament, Buenos Aires, Argentina (March 1998).
- International Congress on Human Rights, National University, Lomas de Zamora, Argentina (October 1998).

National activities

In Argentina, NHR has been involved, among others in the following activities:

- Organized and participated in 32 conferences, public meetings and round tables.
- Organized and updated a specialized Library on human rights at its Buenos Aires' headquarters amounting to 846 publications, among them numerous UN publications that are consulted by researchers and students.
- Maintains a cooperation relationship with the Inter-American Commission on human Rights (Washington), Amnesty International (London), International Commission of Jurists (Geneva) and other 26 human rights organizations worldwide.
- Receives interns to work on human rights assigned by the National University and Catholic University of Buenos Aires.

- Since October 1996, all its services are computerized and have electronic access to the Internet. The e-mail address is: ndh@datamarkets.com.ar. The web page's address is www.ndh.org.ar.
- Analyzed during 4 years the human rights situation and the humanitarian law in 72 countries.
- Published brochures on human rights issues.
- Distributed United Nations brochures on Human Rights in 6 schools and 27 libraries.
- Its staff members participated in various international missions.
- Member of the Commission of the Memory Museum of the City of Buenos Aires.
- Advises individuals seeking protection of the United Nations System or the Organization of American States on human rights issues. Its offices are open every working day. Also responds to telephone, mail or e-mail queries.
- Eight NHR membership's General Assembly were convene during 1995 through 1998.
- Maintains numerous correspondences with officers, parliamentarians and Ambassadors on human rights issues or its violations.
- All its services are free. Member's yearly fee is U$S 50.00. The budget reports are prepared and signed by an Argentinean public national accountant and all reports have been approved by the annual assembly of the organization.